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No 48

An Essay

Dated March 12 1829

on

Hemorrhoids

Presented to the Medical Faculty,

of
The University of Pennsylvania
for

The degree of Doctor of Medicine.

By
Jos. R. Adams

of
South Carolina

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12

Hæmorrhoids is a genus of disease, in the class Dysuria, and order Polypus, of Cullen. By Dr. Chapman it is reached amongst the diseases of circulatory system & discharge of blood from without or within the anus, has usually been considered as the same disease, when the discharge from within is of a florid colour, shewing thereby that it has come from no great distance. Physicians designate three varieties under the names of External, and internal hæmorrhoids. In either case the conclusion is, that the flow of blood proceeds from grossly formed tumours, which are termed the piles.

In some cases tumours may exist either within or without the anus, without any discharge of blood from them; when this is the case, they are usually known by the name of the blind piles. The piles consist of small tumours situated around the verge of the anus, which are sometimes distinct, separate, rounded and prominent. At other times but one tumour is apparent which consists of a tumid or varicose ring, encircling somewhat a protruded anus. On going to stool, the person affected with the piles, feels a smart and then pain and

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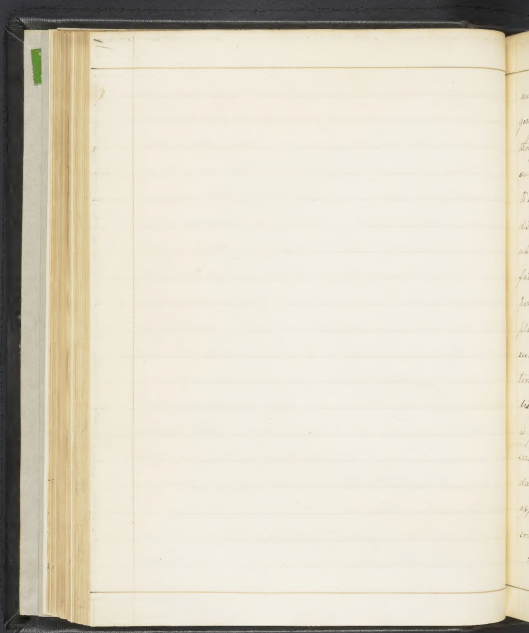
THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

CHAPTER I
OF THE DISCOVERY OF THE CONTINENT
AND THE FIRST SETTLEMENTS
IN THE NORTH AMERICAN
CONTINENT
IN THE YEAR 1492
BY CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS
AND THE FIRST
SETTLEMENTS
IN THE NORTH AMERICAN
CONTINENT
IN THE YEAR 1492
BY CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

humours appear about the verge of the anus. If taken humours break, great relief is immediately experienced, but should they remain entire, the patient suffers extreme pain. They sometimes become so large as to press upon the bladder and causing considerable pain and irritation in voiding the urine.

They may appear without any previous derangement in the system, from topical causes, but most frequently it happens that patient experiences various disorders, such as head ache, sick stomach, flatulency, and flatus, together with pains in the back and loins, accompanied with a greater or less degree of Dysuria. In addition to these symptoms, there exists also a sense of fullness, itching, and pain around the anus. Sometimes preceding this disease, there is a discharge of a serous fluid, accompanied by some swelling, which appears to supersede the necessity of a discharge of blood, and thereby relieves the patient. This serous discharge is denominated Hemorrhoides albae.

As it respects the quantity of blood discharged there can be specified no stated rule, as it is sometimes very profuse



and at other times quite inconsiderable. The discharge generally takes place while the person affected is at stool, though it not unfrequently happens immediately after stool and in some rare instances where there has been no attempt to evacuate the alimentary canal. By frequent and repeated discharges, great debility is produced. Instances are related where the discharge has been so profuse as to prove suddenly fatal. The piles after long continuance sometimes become periodical and the discharge only at regular periods takes place. This disease sometimes exists for a number of years without much inconvenience to the patient (excepting the trouble produced by the regular discharges) and suddenly disappears towards the decline of life. In such cases it is generally followed by some other disease of a more serious and alarming nature. The piles though seldom dangerous should always be checked as soon as they appear, as they very seldom fail to give the patient some considerable trouble and inconvenience.

It is a well attested fact, as far as I am informed on



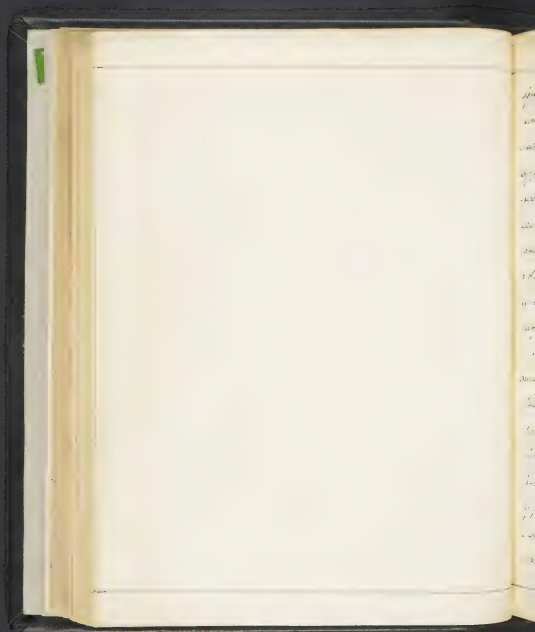
The subject, that Hemorrhoidal evacuations are sometimes attended with very salutary effects. But as a general rule I consider it to be fully admitted, that whenever this disease arises from any disorder originating in other functions, not immediately connected with ^{the} action, but sufficient to create the piles, as soon as the disease which produced the piles is removed, the physician may then with safety turn his attention to the Hemorrhoidal affection and stop the discharge without the apprehension of serious consequences. Occasionally Hemorrhoidal tumours are attended with a very considerable degree of inflammation, which proceeds to suppuration and terminates in fistulous ulcers. We are informed by Thomas that Experiments of piles show that the tumours consist partly of the skin which covers the anus on the outside and partly of the internal membrane of the gut. In general they are entire, but sometimes there is a small opening in them through which the blood issues.

The causes which produce the piles are both local

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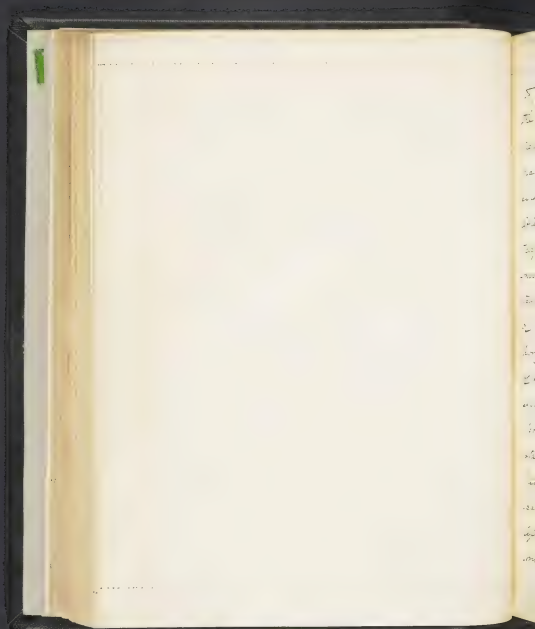
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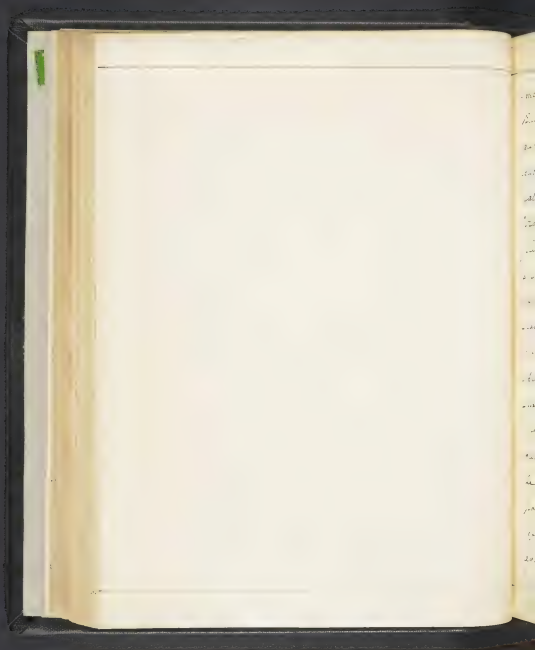


great doubt have always existed amongst physi-
cians, whether the discharge of blood in the piles pro-
ceeds from the hemorrhoidal arteries or veins, and some
suppose that the vessels, supposed to be the arteries, be-
come accretions to the venous, venous stales, that it is
arterial, which its secretion from what vessel the dis-
charge takes place and that the effects produced by
it are the same, from either we very much then cannot, &
it is concluded, however that when the discharge is very
abundant, that it proceeds from the arteries. —

I now come to the treatment of the disease which
must always vary according to its nature and extent.
The most object of the physician should be, as in most
diseases, to remove the cause which produces it, or at
least, if one of the most prominent of the causes which
produces this disease, it should be carefully avoided
as possible, other attention to diet, which should con-
sist chiefly of vegetables, this must be made and not
other; and in last case, and in every calculated



To produce more effect as well as to prevent irritation
the acetum may be taken with opium, & this may be the
best method of use of gentle lavatives, such as man-
na sweetened with oil, or when more inflammation
exists sometimes with a little indistinct of opium.
In the treatment of a somewhat severe case of
the catarrh and haemorrhoid with success well ad-
mired in Europe, when very great inflammation at-
tends the tumour, leeches cannot be applied to the verge
of the anus and the patient should be compelled to lie
horizontal, retired until they are cured. The application
of a cold emulsion of hyssop in some instances produces
with a small highly beneficial. Cold is important in
these cases, when leeches are used, when leeches are
used, excruciating pain, pain. It is common to
use more strongly as would suppose sometimes seri-
ous things in has been tried the experiment
after the inflammation is somewhat different in
ment, such as the sugar of lead, gold and the semi-



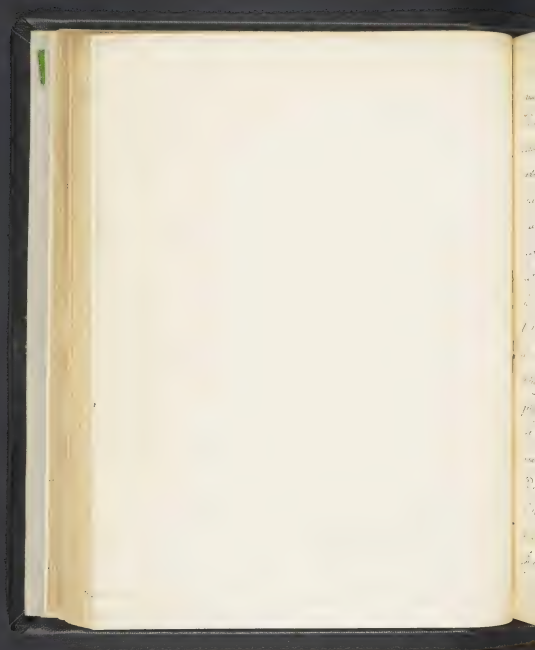
most men are used with considerable idleness.
However the part with great loss is highly cultivated
and in some cases the reference over the dinner
out sometimes is considerable above the steam of warm
water will also be present as usual. It is clear that
the after a long and tedious treatment of a case of
this kind, which occurred in a machine and which resulted
in a great deal of suffering and almost immediate ce-
dence of the patient to the use of the steam of warm
water, which was given morning and evening, that
the patient was very much improved. It sometimes happens
however that the patient exists without much relief
or without any relief, but the patient's health and condition improves
and is sometimes to be noticed. When this is the
case the patient is sometimes which may, generally
be applied to the patient's condition, and is sometimes
noted in the patient's condition, and is sometimes
noted in the patient's condition. This should be, in the patient's
condition, and is sometimes to be noticed, and is sometimes

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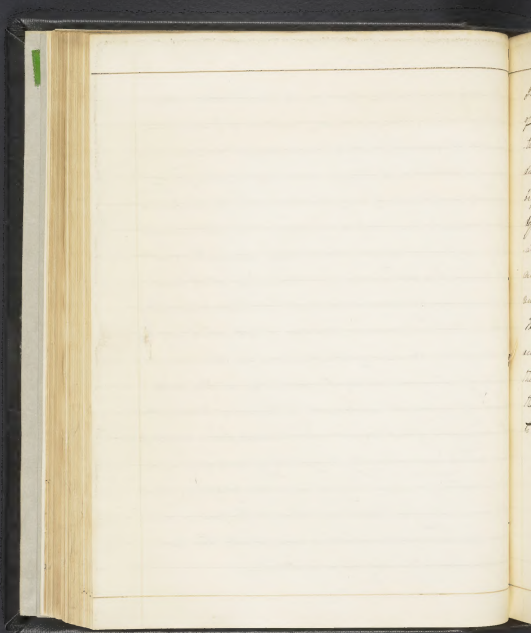
in the arms and secured by the upper Should then be
allowed assist the patients efforts to return them they must
be supported by a soft sponge dipped in warm emollient
solution and retained by means of a proper bandage over
the parts. A frequent and common cause of the piles is
retention of urine, which is generally occasioned by voiding hard
and thick stools. When this is the case, some of the best
remedies are to be used to loosen the bowels, the diet at the
same time being light and digestible. If however the
hemorrhage continues, the piles are not removed, and the
patient is in great pain, it will be necessary to use
astringent with a poultice of equal parts of the
two. The astringent is recommended to contain an acid and
a little oil, to which may be added the extract of Peruvian
in internal application, a solution of sugar of lead
an infusion of galls, or tincture of iron will be found to
answer best. The emollient poultice will generally
be found adequate. Dose - Hemorrhoids - 10 grains
of opium, 3 times a day.

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[illegible]



any advantage farther than can be derived from other
kinds of exercise, when no danger of irritation is to be apprehended.
The cold bath will be found useful auxiliary in
arresting plethora and allaying hemorrhage—change of
climate and mode of living, together with the moderate
use of exercise, pushed to a mild sedation, will be found
highly useful in allaying habituated piles—the great
est danger to be apprehended from hemorrhaging at all times
is the extreme debility and even death, which are occasioned
by the sudden and excessive discharges of blood which frequent
ly take place. In cases of violent hemorrhage the man-
gnetic activity of astringents are chiefly perceptible, but they will
frequently be found inadequate by themselves to arrest
the discharge. Great benefit is to be derived from con-
suetude, which may generally be effected by introducing in
the rectum a waxen bougie or a piece of sponge dipped
in some astringent solution. Should this fail and the
piles can be reached, which is occasionally the case—
they should be secured by a ligature—



In conclusion, I will observe, that in the treatment
of the piles generally from its incipience to its onset pro-
tracted, state, the obvious necessity of cold drinks and light
diet, is clearly manifested, nor can too much attention
be paid thereto. When the piles proceed so far as to produce
hemorrhages, headache, and to turn the skin pale; Rem-
ote just debility and weakness together with bad smell
and other threatening symptoms, nothing short of a
removal of the humours will be found to answer—

The two modes of removing them are with the knife
and ligature; but as I did not intend entering upon
the surgical treatment of this disease, I now dismiss
the subject, claiming that indulgence which is due
to my former age. I have

